

Laboratory Link

January 2000

Published by the Community Involvement Office Building 134, P.O. Box 5000 Upton, NY 11973

Phone: 631 344-2345 Fax: 631 344-3654 www.bnl.gov

Brookhaven Lab Spent Almost \$33 Million on Long Island in 1999

- The Laboratory purchased almost \$33 million worth of supplies and services from Long Island businesses in fiscal year 1999, an increase of about 17 percent or almost \$5 million more than in 1998.
- Most of the Lab's 3,000 employees live in Suffolk County and do most of their shopping locally on Long Island. Salaries, wages and benefits accounted for \$249 million, of the Lab's total 1999 budget of \$408 million.

Small Business Development Center Opens

- The Center will be a business development resource, serving as a mentor to businesses while expanding the number of potential service and product providers for the Laboratory.
- A partnership between the Department of Energy and New York State created this branch of a statewide and state-run program funded by DOE.
- The Center will be located at the DOE offices at Brookhaven National Laboratory.
 For more information call (631) 344-2393.

Brookhaven Lab Collaboration Determines how Aging Affects Brain Chemistry

- In the latest study conducted at Brookhaven's positron emission tomography (PET) facility, researchers found chemical changes in the brain that may underlie the cognitive deterioration associated with aging.
- The finding may help develop interventions for age-related cognitive decline.

Brookhaven Lab and a Long Island Manufacturer Collaborate On New Technique to Make Microscopic "Machines"

- Brookhaven Lab scientists and Standard MEMS Inc., which has a manufacturing facility in Hauppauge, N.Y., are collaborating on a revolutionary micro-fabrication technique that will produce cost-effective devices that are used to perform microscopic tasks.
- Micro-machines are smaller than the diameter of a human hair.

(over)

William Floyd High School Student Wins Prize for Outstanding Art Work

• Tara McManus, a senior at William Floyd High School, won a \$500 savings bond from Brookhaven Science Associates, the company that operates the Laboratory for the Department of Energy. Tara's winning work is a self-portrait. In it, monarch butterflies emerge from a box that contains a sculpted head and mementos and photographs of her life.

In January:

Removal Action Alternative Study to be Released

- Preparations for the decommissioning of the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor -- the world's first reactor built for peaceful research -- continue with the release of the *Removal Action Alternatives Study* for public comment.
- The public is invited to participate in the decision-making process. Watch for announcements of February public meetings.

Essayist David Bouchier to Speak on "A Short History of the 21st Century"

- At noon on Wednesday, January 12, David Bouchier will present tongue-in-cheek insights into what he imagines the new century will be like.
- Bouchier is an award-winning essayist for National Public Radio Station WSHU.
- The 45-minute slide-illustrated talk is free, open to the public and will be held at Brookhaven Lab's Berkner Hall.

Classical Indian Kathak Dance Performance

- Join us for an exciting dance performance, which will be held on Saturday, January 22, at 4 p.m. in Berkner Hall. Tickets may be purchased at the door, \$10 for adults and \$5 for full-time students and senior citizens.
- Kathak dance is an interpretive form of dance that portrays stories from Indian mythology and contemporary themes. Dressed in colorful costumes with more than a hundred tiny bells tied around each ankle, Kathak dancers use intricate footwork and various rhythmic patterns to tell their stories.

Did You Know?

Every year laboratory employees contribute to United Way. The December 1999 drive raised \$117,000 to support local organizations.

In January, thirty-four years ago, Brookhaven researchers announced the first synthesis of human insulin. Today, synthetic insulin is commercially available for diabetics who are allergic to animal-derived insulin.